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DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE ORGANIZATION OF
THE MUNICIPALITY OF WASHINGTON, TEXAS.

[According to a statement made by Asa Hoxey, president of the Washington Company, in a communication addressed to the commissioners to locate the seat of government and dated November 15, 1837, Washington "was laid out as a Town in the spring of 1835."¹ The following documents, taken from the Texas Archives, give an account of the organization of the municipality, in July, 1835. The jurisdiction of Washington was erected into a county by the constitution adopted in March, 1836.—E. W. WINKLER.]

I.

*Petition of the Citizens of Washington Addressed to the Political
Chief of the Department of Brazos, James B. Miller.*

To his Excellency

James B Miller

Your petitioners respectfully represent — that during the last year they did Petition the Auy^{to} of the Jurisdiction of Austin to be Sepperated from said Jurisdiction and to be organised, and to form a New Jurisdiction to be called the Jurisdiction of Washington Said Petitioners set forth the limits of the said Jurisdiction and the place of holding the Corts, &c. All of which was approved of and acted upon by said Ayu^{to} and recommended through the proper channells to the Congress of the State for its action (as the Constitution and Laws provide) but owing to some cause unknown to your petitioners the application (documents) &c was not recd by the Congress in time to be acted upon

Your petitioners being aware of the disorganised condition of the Government of the State and of the disorder with which it is surrounded and thereby of the uncertainty of its reorganisation, deem it expedient to organise the said New Jurisdiction without any further delay. Your Petitioners being also aware of the ex-

¹Seat of Government Papers. (MSS.) Texas State Library.

traordinary powers conferred upon your Excellency pray that you order an organisation of said Jurisdiction immediately and thereby preserve order and union amongst the Inhabitants

2nd. day of July 1835

Jno P Coles	Francis G Clampitt (?)
James Whiteside	John W. Conner
Shubael Marsh	W A Hall
John J. Wyche	J J Allcorn (?)
Epps D. Payne	E. D Jackson
Asa Hoxey	F. (?) Soop
John Newell (?)	Wm. W. Hill
James Clark	Wm Lewis (?)
Baldon Robinson	Ashby R Stevens (?)
M. Cummins	T G Evitt (?)
J. G. Wilkinson	James Moore
William W Hawkins	J. B. Chanie (?)
Jesse B. Atkinson	Elijah Allcorn
John H. Allcorn	G W Barnett
John P. Tompson	John F Guthrie
James G. Swisher	W. E. Allcorn
John Grahams	T Chambers
Jacob Gross	D T A Thomson
Isaac Thomas	Alfred M. Cooper
Isaac H (?) Hawkins	Horatio Chriesman
Joshua Graham	Stephen R Roberts
Thos G (?) Allen	Hiram Beales
William H. Miller	Thomas Dillard

II.

Another Copy of the Petition Addressed by the Citizens of Washington to the Political Chief of the Department of Brazos, James B. Miller.

[This document is a copy. It corresponds almost word for word with the forgoing petition, and bears the same date. The following signatures are attached to it:]

J M Splan	J. W. Simpson.
David Trast.	Wm Copenhavn.
S Moris	Ches. J. Young
J H Wood	J F Q Walkertson (?)
Robt. J. Clow.	Lewis Jones
H J Williamson	Samuel Henrey [or Kerney]
M. T. Martin	James Gray
James Lynch	Noah T (?) Byars
Saml R Miller	James Balantine
Bethel Morris	Peter M. Mercer
John Lott	Isaac Connelly
Thos. S. Saul	Wm C Jones
Moses Evans	

III.

Memorandum Transmitted by the Political Chief of the Department of Brazos, James B. Miller, to His Successor in Office, Wyly Martin.

San Felipe July 19 1835

* * * * *

I have permitted the jurisdiction of Washington to organize provisionally every man in the jurisdiction has signed a petition requesting said organization as their territory is extensive & this point too far, their petition passed through this Ayuntamiento to Govt and was not acted upon by the Govt last session, which caused great dissatisfaction, as soon as the Govt was again organized I intended to report them in an organised condition and pray the Govt to legalize their proceedings as every man has signed the petition for this provisional organization no man can plead to the jurisdiction of the Courts—

* * * * *

J B Miller

IV.

Recapitulation of Votes taken for Municipal Officers, and Sheriff of the Jurisdiction of Washington, on Saturday 18 July, 1835.

	Al- calde		Regidors—							Synd: Procur:r			Sheriff.						
	H. J. William- son.	Josa. Hadley.	H. Chriesman.	Jesse Grymes.	Jas. Hall, Jr.	A. Mitchell.	Josa. Hadley.	M. Cummings.	Ab. Zuber.	A. C. Reynolds.	J. P. Lynch.	E. Roddy.	Jas. Hall, Jr.	Jos. Hadley.	Jno. W. Hall.	A. D. Kinnard.	T. Dillard.	D. Baird.	J. Shannon.
At the town of Washington	23	37	46	58	11	7	...	...	...	53	...	...	...	...	49	...	9	...	1
At house of Shub. Marsh...	47	.....	36	47	.....	16	11	...	...	34	...	...	...	...	31	...	13	4	1
At house of Jas. Walker....	51	6	13	14	44	44	...	...	...	13	44	...	...	...	20	14	24	...	...
At house of Fitzgibbons....	2	23	.....	.....	.....	...	...	24	24	...	...	23	...	...	5	20	...	...	...
At house of Chas. Garrett.	3	44	.....	1	44	44	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	25	17	4	...	...
At house of Jesse Grimes..	36	.....	39	.....	...	39	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	2	27	9	...	...
At house of Asa Mitchell...	22	11	23	19	9	15	...	...	...	16	8	...	...	...	19	2	12	...	...
Total.....	147	160	118	178	108	165	11	24	24	116	52	23	30	1	151	80	71	4	2

Thos. S. Saul, Secy

I, John P. Coles, do hereby certify, that having compared the within list of votes, from the returns from the several elections, held on Saturday 18th July 1835 for the municipal officers—and sheriff of the Jurisdiction of Washington, find that

Josa^a. Hadley had 160 votes as Alcalde

Jesse Grymes had 178 votes as Regidor

Asa Mitchell had 165 votes as Regidor

A. C. Reynolds had 116 votes as Syndico procurador

Jno. W. Hall had 151 votes as Sheriff.....

and being the highest number voted for the several offices are duly elected.....

Washington 21 July 1835

Jno P Coles

by order of
his Excellency

J B Miller

V.

*The Ayuntamiento of Washington to the Political Chief of the
Department of Brazos.*

Ayuntamiento of the Jurisdiction
of Washington 28th July 1835

To his Excellency Jas. B. Miller
Actg. Govr. of the Province of Texas

Sir

I have the honor respectfully to inform you,
that this body have, by an unanimous resolution passed this day,
nominated the following persons to fill the Offices of Judge &
supernumeraries of this municipality—

Viz

Moses Cummings
Jas Hall Sen^r
Shub: Marsh
S. R. Roberts

and respectfully refer the same to your decision.

God & Liberty
Joshua Hadley (Prst)

Thos. S. Saul
Secy